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these recorders. With many of the events narrated in each record he became personally familiar and can avouch the honesty of the narrative.

The map which accompanies the story seems to have been inserted because it was some sort of a map of the Western Pacific; it is by no means in accord with the present state of our knowledge of the region and will be found of scant value in illustrating the work. In the matter of spelling, Mr. Rannie is quite phonetic, and probably will impose difficulty upon such as attempt to identify the scenes of his exploits. We have the missionaries to thank for settling upon some system of recording place names and, while on phonetic grounds their system is not perhaps all that could be desired, there is no reason why an author should break away from it. There is this excuse, however, to be noted: the charts of the British Admiralty have not yet adopted the standard spellings, and any man whose activity in the Pacific was exercised aboard ship would incline to the chart spellings.

WILLIAM CHURCHILL.

EUROPE

The Magic of Spain. By Aubrey F. G. Bell. 264 pp. Index. John Lane Co., New York. 1912. \$1.50. 7½ x 5½.

It is the magic of the things seen with an artist's eye and transcribed in a delightful style that will be conveyed to the minds of the readers of this book. Those whose advantage it has been to travel south of the Pyrenees will indeed discern the "parfum du terroir" exhaled from almost every page. How well the author has caught the spirit of the place can be detected even in his style, which, now and then, abounds with the sunny imagery that pervades Spanish literature. Here we have one of the many remnants of Moorish influence still strongly discernible in modern Spain. Mr. Bell might undoubtedly have alluded with greater emphasis to the potency of this Oriental undercurrent permeating Spanish life in explanation of the many customs which he describes so charmingly. Was he not aware of the fact that the many Spanish proverbs he quotes are but offsprings of similar sayings currently used in conversation in Damascus or Bagdad?

The chapters on Spanish literature will give a fair idea of the fundamental strains of naïveté and grandiloquence that hold sway over the Spanish mind. Life and Nature are looked upon to-day in Spain much in the light in which an inhabitant of medieval Europe saw them. Therein, perhaps, lies a good deal of the country's and the people's attractiveness. However it be, a full measure of this semi-Oriental and fascinating spell is given in Mr. Bell's book.

LEON DOMINIAN.

The Sea-Kings of Crete. By the Rev. James Baikie. xiv and 274 pp. Plans, ill., index. Adam and Charles Black, London. 1910. \$2. 8½ x 5½.

To have the legends of Minos, overlord of the Aegean, of Theseus, whose success in solving the problem of the Labyrinth and killing the Minotaur won for him Ariadne, and of the marvelous Daedalus and his ill-fated son taken suddenly from the realm of fancy and placed in the category of history will be somewhat of a surprise to the general reader for whom this book is written. Furthermore, it may be expected that the neophyte in the field of archaeological literature will read with pleasure of the discoveries which tend to humanize Agamemnon and Achilles as they waged war against the stronghold of Priam, but he cannot be blamed if he fails to follow the tenuous thread of so delicate an